ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A portable power planer for planing the top surface of a workpiece. The portable power planer includes a base assembly, a carriage assembly disposed above the base assembly, the carriage assembly includes a cutterhead assembly, the carriage assembly being vertically movable to change distance between the base assembly and the carriage assembly, a hand crank attached to the carriage assembly for changing the distance between the base assembly and the carriage assembly, a material removal gauge disposed on the carriage assembly, a switch disposed on the carriage assembly, and a height scale disposed on the base assembly, wherein the material removal gauge, the switch and the height scale are on the front side of the power planer, and the hand crank is substantially on the front half of the power planer.